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Attorney Docket No. 036481-0134

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Edward R. SMITH *et al.*  
Title: PARTICLE CASSETTE, METHOD AND KIT THEREFOR  
Appl. No.: 09/916,176  
Filing Date: 07/26/2001  
Examiner: Mark K. HAN  
Art Unit: 3763

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated November 18, 2003, concerning the above-captioned patent application. **The first page of the Office Action was not included in the mailing. Accordingly, the date of the Office Action was confirmed with the Group Receptionist.**

Amendments to the Specification are reflected on page 2 of this document.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this document.

Amendments to the Drawings are reflected on page 7 of this document.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows:

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